

**METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR TRANSPERICARDIAL
LEFT ATRIAL APPENDAGE CLOSURE**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Methods and apparatus for closing a left atrial appendage are described. The 5 methods rely on introducing a closure tool from a location beneath the rib cage, over an epicardial surface, and to the exterior of the left atrial appendage. The closure device may then be used to close the left atrial appendage, preferably at its base, by any one of a variety of techniques. A specific technique using graspers and a closing loop is illustrated.

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